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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE SECRET EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs EO 13526 3.3(b)(6)>25Yrs DIST 28 NOVEMBER 1973 AHDERSON HOLDRIDGE ___ HORMATS_ JORDEN ... Khater DY COUNTRY EGYPT/ISRAEL LERMAN __ LEVINE _ DOI: NEGROPORTE. OUESH. SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS AT KILOMETER 101 -RATHET ROUBON. TEM_ ACQ: SOURCEL

(SUMMARY: EGYPT IS STILL HOPEFUL THAT THE "DISENGAGEMENT" TALKS WITH THE ISRAELIS WILL LEAD TO AN EFFECTIVE INTERIM AGREEMENT. ISRAEL HAS STATED A WILLINGNESS TO WITHDRAW ALL ISRAELI TROOPS TO A LINE EAST OF THE SINAL MOUNTAIN PASSES BUT IN RETURN CONTINUES TO INSIST THAT EGYPT UNILATERALLY REDUCE THE ARMOR OF EGYPTIAN FORCES LEFT IN THE SINAL. EGYPT BELIEVES THAT ANY ARMOR REDUCTIONS SHOULD BE MUTUAL. TALKS ARE SCHEDULED TO

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RESUME 29 NOVEMBER.)

1. AS OF 28 NOVEMBER, THE CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS AT KILOMETER

101 ON THE CAIRO-SUEZ APPEARED TO THE EGYPTIAN PARTY BOTH

ENCOURAGING AND DISCOURAGING. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, THE DISCUSSIONS

HAVE FOCUSED ON VARIOUS PROPOSALS AND COUNTER-PROPOSALS WHICH,

ALTHOUGH NOT YET CLOSE ENOUGH TO BE CALLED EVEN A TENTATIVE

AGREEMENT, ARE NEVERTHELESS SPECIFIC AND SERIOUS; ON THE NEGATIVE

SIDE, THE EGYPTIANS STILL HAVE AN UNEASY FEELING THAT THE ISRAELIS

ARE STALLING AND WILL ULTIMATELY PROVE TO HAVE BEEN INSINCERE. FOR

THE PRESENT, HOWEVER, THE EGYPTIANS ARE WILLING, EVEN ANXIOUS, TO

PURSUE THESE DISCUSSIONS TOWARD AN EQUITABLE DISENGAGEMENT AND,

MEANWHILE, PREPARED TO SUBORDINATE INSISTENCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION

OF THE SECOND ARTICLE OF THE SIX POINT AGREEMENT CALLING FOR

WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES TO THE OCTOBER 22 LINES.

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- 2. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSALS AND COUNTERPROPOSALS PUT FORTH BY THE TWO SIDES IN THEIR RECENT SERIES OF
 MEETINGS!
- A. WHEN THE ISRAELIS STILL REFUSED 22 NOVEMBER TO DISCUSS THE SECOND POINT OF THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT, I.E. WITHDRAWAL TO 22 OCTOBER LINES, MAJ. GEN. Y A R I V, THE ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE, SAID THAT THE SO-CALLED "22 OCTOBER LINES" WOULD BE MILITARILY INDEFENSABLE. HE THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT ISRAEL HAD IS ARMY BRIGADES IN THE SINAI AND SIX MORE BRIGADES IN THE SYRIAN FRONT. HE STATED THAT THESE FORCES WERE JUST SITTING AROUND AND BEING WASTED, INSTEAD OF BEING AT LEAST PARTIALLY DEMOBILIZED TO RETURN TO THEIR CIVILIAN OCCUPATIONS. WOULD EGYPT CONSIDER A FORMULA WHEREBY ISRAEL WOULD WITHDRAW ALL ITS FORCES FROM THE WEST BANK OF THE SUEZ CANAL TO A LINE ABOUT SIX MILES EAST OF THE SUEZ CANAL WHILE EGYPT WITHDRAWS ALL BUT A FEW MILITARY UNITS (STRENGTH OF WHICH TO BE NEGOTIATED) FROM THE EAST BANK OF THE CANAL TO THE WEST BANK?
- B. EGYPT, AT THE NEXT MEETING, RESPONDED THAT THE ISRAELISUGGESTED LINES IN SINAI WERE TOO CLOSE TO THE CANAL IN ANY EVENT,
 EGYPT COULD NOT CONSIDER LEAVING TOKEN FORCES ONLY ON THE EAST BANK.

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THE ISRAELIS THEN PROPOSED THAT THE ISRAELI FORCES IN THE SINAL BE MOVED FURTHER EAST OF THE CANAL, ON A NORTH-SOUTH LINE THAT WAS JUST WEST RPT WEST OF THE MITLA AND OTHER SINAL MOUNTAIN PASSES. THE ISRAELIS FURTHER PROPOSED A MORE MODERATE REDUCTION OF THE EGYPTIAN FORCES IN THE SINAL BUT ADDITIONALLY STIPULATED THE REMAINING EGYPTIAN FORCES WOULD HAVE TO REMOVE ALL ARMOR AND ARTILLERY TO THE WEST BANK OF THE CANAL.

C. AT THE NEXT CONTACT, THE ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE OFFERED THE FOLLOWING SO-CALLED CONCESSION: ALL EGYPTIAN FORCES NOW IN THE SINAI COULD REMAIN IN THE SINAI BUT THESE FORCES WOULD HAVE TO REDUCE SHARPLY THEIR ARMOR AND ARTILLERY HOLDINGS. THE EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE REPLIED THAT IF EGYPTIAN FORCES IN THE SINAI WERE TO HAVE NO ARMOR OR ARTILLERY. THEN ISRAELI FORCES IN THE SINAI SHOULD NOT HAVE SUCH EQUIPMENT EITHER. IN OTHER WORDS, BOTH SIDES SHOULD EITHER KEEP ALL TROOPS WITH ARMOR IN THE SINAI OR BOTH SIDES SHOULD MUTUALLY REDUCE OR TOTALLY WITHDRAW THEIR ARMOR.

D. AT THE END OF THE SESSION 26 NOVEMBER (THE LAST MEETING TO DATE) THE NEGOTIATING POSITIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS: THE ISRAELIS WERE STILL PRESSING FOR UNILATERAL EGYPTIAN REDUCTION OF ARMOR AND ARTILLERY IN THE SINAI AND, IN RETURN, HAD OFFERED FOR THE FIRST TIME

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- 1. THE MEETING 29 NOVEMBER AT KILOMETER 101 ON THE CAIRO-SUEZ
 ROAD BETWEEN ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVES DID NOT ACHIEVE
 ANY PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.
- 2. EGYPT HAD EXPECTED ANSWERS FROM THE ISRAELIS TO QUESTIONS
 ASKED AT THE LAST MEETING 26 NOVEMBER CONCERNING HOW FAR EAST OF THE
 SINAI MOUNTAIN PASSES THE ISRAELIS WERE PREPARED TO WITHDRAW THEIR
 FORCES AND THE SIZE, DISPOSITION, AND ARMOR COMPLEMENT FOR BOTH THE

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FRONT LINE AND MAIN BODY OF THE ISRAELI FORCES.	THE ISRAELI
REPRESENTATIVE DID NOT ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS NOR	DID HE PRESENT ANY
NEW PROPOSALS. THE EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE THERE	FORE REPEATED THE
LATEST EGYPTIAN POSITION, WHICH HAD BEEN STATED T	
THE PREVIOUS MEETING: FORCES OF BOTH SIDES IN TH	E SINAI SHOULD
EITHER BE PERMITTED TO HAVE ALL THEIR ARMOR AND A	RTILLERY OR BOTH
SIDES SHOULD MUTUALLY REDUCE OR TOTALLY WITHDRAW	ALL ARMOR AND
ARTILLERY FROM THE SINAI. THE ISRAELI REPRESENTA	TIVE SAID NEITHER 3
OF THESE ALTERNATIVES WAS ACCEPTABLE. THE SESSIO	N ENDED ON THIS
NOTE, WITH AGREEMENT TO MEET AGAIN IN THE NEAR FU	ITURE.
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4. THE MEETING 29 NOVEMBER WAS DELAYED TWICE. THE FIRST
INTERRUPTION OCCURRED JUST AS THE REPRESENTATIVES WERE ARRIVING AT
THE SITE A FIRE FIGHT, STARTED BY THE ISRAELIS, BROKE OUT IN THE
VICINITY. THE SECOND INTERRUPTION OCCURRED DURING THE MEETING WHEN
THE ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVES WENT OUTSIDE THE TENT FOR A PRIVATE
CEREMONY. (INFORMANT COMMENT: THE CEREMONY WAS APPARENTLY TO
COMMEMORATE ISRAELI WAR DEAD; TODAY MAY HAVE BEEN THE ISRAELI
EQUIVALENT OF THE EGYPTIAN 'MARTYRS DAY'.)
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